



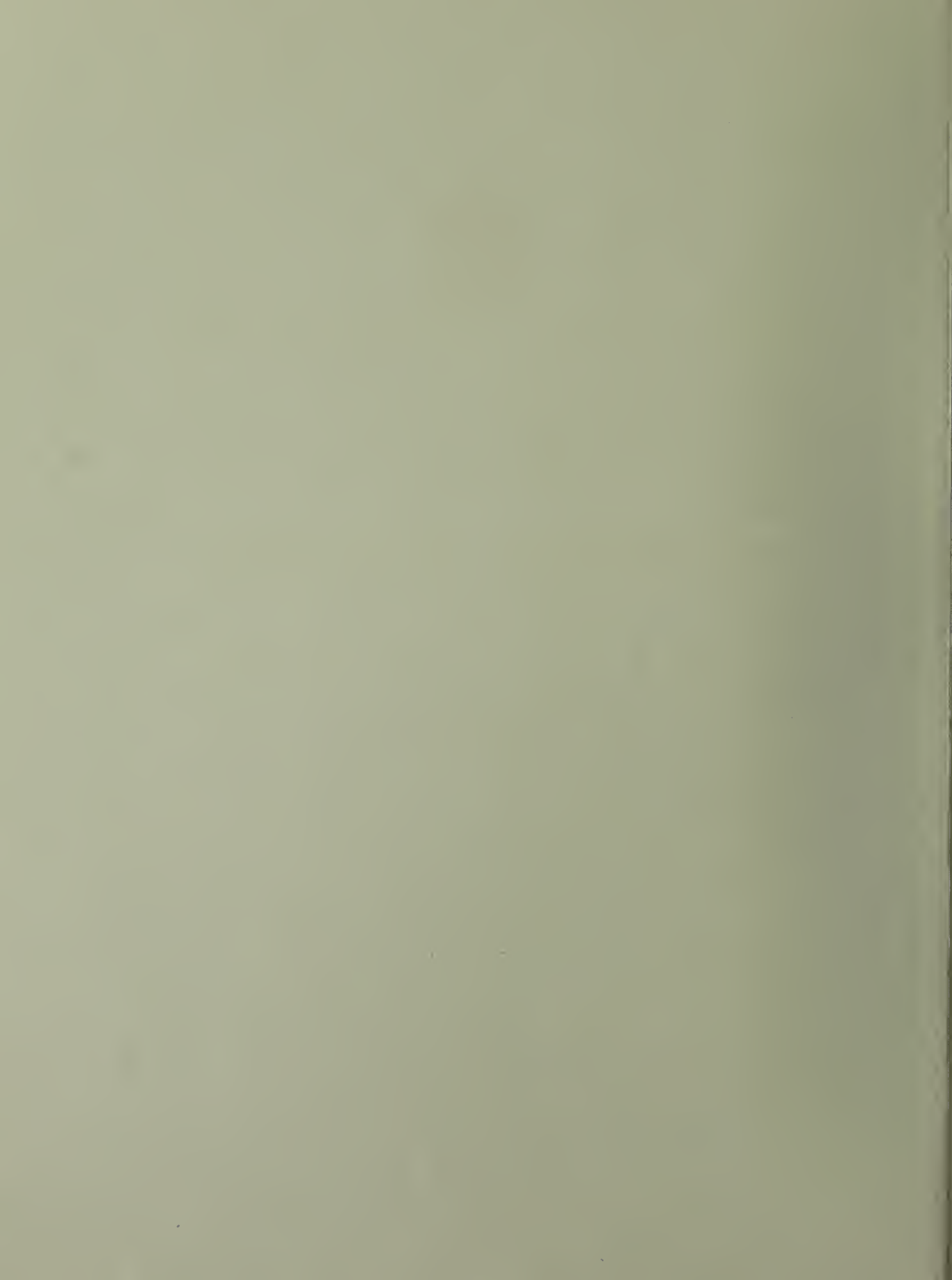
BOROUGH OF KIDDERMINSTER

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR

1969

COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.,
(Medical Officer of Health)
J. B. HINTON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., (Chief Public Health Inspector)





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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.1969 - 1970.

Chairman	Alderman A.H. Humphries.
Vice-Chairman	Councillor D.V. Adam.
HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ex officio) ..	...	...	...	Councillor J.S. Perrin.
Alderman W.S. Carter ...	...	...	...	Alderman H.G. Parker.
Councillor A.J. Batchelor...	...	...	...	Councillor Mrs. R. Chamberlain.
Councillor W.J. Cotterell...	...	...	...	Councillor C.G. Dance.
Councillor G.F. Davies ...	...	...	...	Councillor Lady Eddy.
Councillor J.M. Freeman ...	...	...	...	Councillor W.E. Fish.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH.

Medical Officer of Health:

COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector:

J.B. HINTON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector).

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector:

J. WHITTINGSLOW, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector).

Public Health Inspector:

N. MILLINER, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector).

D. KNIGHT, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector)

Assistant to Public Health Inspector:

R.A. ROGERS.

Authorised Meat Inspector.

H.E. ELLISON (From April 1969).

Inspector.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

MRS. S.A. COLLINS.

Cleansing Superintendent:

S.B. LORD, A.M.I.W.H.S

Public Analyst:

W.E. JONES, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR 1968 and 1969.

	1968	1969
Area of district in Acres.	4,694	4,694
Population at Census 1961.	40,822	40,822
Estimated Population (mid-year) for Birth Rate and Death Rate.	46,180	46,740
No. of inhabited houses estimated.	16,136	16,280
No. of persons per house.	2.86	2.81
Rateable value.	£2,126,456	£2,228,745
Sum represented by Penny Rate.	£8,870	£9,283
No. of Marriages.	438	441
No. of Live Births.	878	938
No. of Still Births.	8	15
Birth Rate (Live) (Corrected).	19.0	20.1
Birth Rate for England and Wales. (Live).	16.9	16.3
No. of illegitimate Births.	68	88
No. of deaths under one year of age.	11	19
of these there were illegitimate.	NIL	1
INFANTILE MORTALITY PER 1,000 BIRTHS.	12.5	20.0
Infantile Mortality for England and Wales.	18.0	18.0
Maternal Mortality Rate, England and Wales.	0.24	0.15
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births)	NIL	NIL
Number of deaths.	520	560
Death Rate (Corrected).	11.2	11.5
Death Rate for England and Wales.	11.3	11.9
Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis.	4	1
Number of Deaths from Cancer.	92	95
Number of Deaths from Influenza.	6	3
Number of Deaths from Measles.	NIL	NIL
Number of Deaths from Whooping Cough.	NIL	NIL

Year	Live Births	Deaths	Births over Deaths Increase
1960	647	472	175
1961	712	534	178
1962	776	517	259
1963	781	532	249
1964	834	532	302
1965	816	458	358
1966	842	531	311
1967	922	501	421
1968	878	520	358
1969	938	560	378

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.
FOR THE YEAR 1969.

5-9, Church Street,
Kidderminster.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

In 1969 the first men walked on the moon. We can no more foretell the significance of this event than could those denizens of the sea who first left the water and walked on dry land. The event itself stirred world imagination more than any other of recent times, and brought more people concentrating on one peaceful event than ever before. Perhaps from now on we shall think of earth differently, and realise what we are doing to it when we pollute its air, foul its waters and poison its land.

The work of clearing the substandard houses in the Borough has continued. The atmosphere is the cleaner since a chemical works in the centre of the town closed down, and ever more householders are using oil, gas and electricity in preference to solid fuel.

The routine work of the Health Department has continued to occupy very fully all the Health Staff. A detailed account of the work would be tedious so the following pages contain only an outline of some of the activities.

Further information on any part of the service is always willingly given when asked for by any member of the public.

For the help given at all times by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, and for the ever loyal support from the Health Department Staff and from colleagues in other departments, I am grateful.

Yours obediently

COLIN STARKIE

Medical Officer of Health.

POPULATION.

There is an increase of 378 to a total now of 46,740 inhabitants of the borough.

The Birth Rate is up to 20.1 per 1000 persons, and is above the national rate of 16.3

The Infantile Mortality Rate of 20 compares unfavourably with 18.0 which is the National Rate.

There were 88 illegitimate births, 9.3% of all births and the highest recorded in Kidderminster.

The Death Rate of 11.5 is almost the same as the National Death Rate. 51 men died from Cancer; 17 of these, or one third of the total were cancer of the lung with which cigarette smoking is so closely associated.

HOUSING.

The demolition and replacement of old and worn out houses is fully dealt with in the Public Health Inspector's report on page 24

HOUSES BUILT.

Number of houses built by private enterprise ...	...	...	305
Number of houses built by Local Authority ...	...	...	134
Total number of Corporation houses in the Borough at 31.12.69	...	...	4684
Total number of applicants on housing waiting list at 1.1.69	...	...	484
Total number of applicants on housing waiting list at 31.12.69	...	...	635

The total number of corporation houses completed and occupied during the year 1969 was 134 in the following types:-

1 bedroom bungalows	...	...	32
1 bedroom flats	...	...	32
2 bedroom flats	...	...	29
3 bedroom houses	...	...	41
Number of houses vacated and re-let during 1969	...	...	243
Number of Aged Persons Units built up to 31.12.69	...	...	786

ALL AGED PERSONS UNITS EXCEPT FOR 16 FLATS ARE NOW COVERED BY WARDENS.

The weekly inclusive rents for Corporation dwellings ranged between 36/11 for pre-war Aged Persons bungalows, to 112/4 for a 5 bedroomed post war house.

One-bedroomed premises are most useful for the aged, for people living alone and even for childless married couples.

For the increasing number of old people it will be most useful to have a large number of one-bedroomed flatlets, grouped round common sitting rooms, centrally heated and with a Resident Warden. A scheme of 41 units is now in course of erection at Habberley Estate and will be completed in early 1970.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Kidderminster is so well situated that it is virtually unaffected by aerial pollution produced outside its boundaries, which means that any filth in the Kidderminster atmosphere is entirely home produced. During the year one chemical factory situated in the centre of the town closed down, bringing to an end a persistent pollution over which there has been no control.

The majority of factory chimneys are well controlled most of the time, but in the absence of adequate anti-pollution laws anyone is allowed to put forth the most filthy smoke from domestic chimneys or refuse bonfires, often to the distress of neighbours who are smoked out of their own gardens by smouldering refuse.

It would be so much better if refuse were allowed to dry before being burned, and then only burned late in the evening.

A further note on Atmospheric Pollution will be found on Page 32

WATER SUPPLY

There has been an adequate supply of water pumped from deep wells and augmented from the Birmingham source of water in the Elan Valley. The water has always proved to be of excellent quality although totally lacking in fluoride which is essential for building decay-resistant teeth. Until the community insists on sufficient fluoride being added to the water supply, it will continue to suffer the enormous amount of dental decay now found all over the town.

GENERAL HEALTH

Mothers and children are generally very healthy (apart from dental decay). Older people, particularly men, are liable to suffer from increasing bronchitis, coronary thrombosis and lung cancer. These three conditions are made much worse by cigarette smoking.

The highest figures ever were recorded for deaths from lung cancer, 29,300 in England and Wales, i.e. approx. One man in twelve who died.

DEATHS IN 1969

<u>Total</u>	560
<u>Causes</u>	(See also Page 11)
Heart and Circulatory	197
Intercranial Haemorrhage (Stroke)	84
Cancer other than lung	75
Respiratory - Pneumonia and bronchitis	77
Lung Cancer	20

During the last 20 years the average expectation of life has increased from 64 - 68 years for men and from 69 - 74 for women. We do not know what causes this difference in expectation of life between the sexes.

DEATHS IN 1969 CONTD.

The ages at which resident deaths have taken place during 1969 are as follows:-

Under 4 weeks	13
4 weeks and under 1 year	6
Between 1 and 5 years	2
Between 5 and 15 years	1
Between 15 and 25 years	8
Between 25 and 35 years	7
Between 35 and 45 years	12
Between 45 and 55 years	36
Between 55 and 65 years	98
Between 65 and 75 years	140
75 years and upwards	237

NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM EACH DISEASE.

Cause of Death	Male	Female
1. Enteritis & other Diarrhoeal Diseases.	1	1
2. Other Tuberculosis, inc. late effects.	1	-
3. Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	2	-
4. Malignant Neoplasm, Oesphagus.	2	2
5. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	3	7
6. Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine.	4	8
7. Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx.	1	-
8. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	16	4
9. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.	7	10
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus.	-	3
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate.	7	-
12. Leukaemia.	3	1
13. Other Malignant Neoplasms.	11	10
14. Benign & Unspecified Neoplasms.	-	1
15. Diabetes Mellitus.	-	6
16. Other Endocrine etc. Diseases.	1	1
17. Anaemias.	-	1
18. Other Diseases of Nervous System etc.	2	4
19. Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease.	4	4
20. Hypertensive Disease.	2	4
21. Ischaemic Heart Disease.	75	50
22. Other Forms of Heart Disease.	14	28
23. Cerebrovascular Disease.	36	48
24. Other Disease of Circulatory System.	10	20
25. Influenza.	2	1
26. Pneumonia.	17	20
27. Bronchitis & Emphysema.	32	8
28. Asthma.	-	1
29. Other Disease of Respiratory System.	3	1
30. Peptic Ulcer.	5	1
31. Appendicitis.	-	1
32. Intestinal Obstruction & Hernia.	2	1
33. Cirrhosis of Liver.	2	1
34. Other Disease of Digestive System.	2	2
35. Nephritis & Nephrosis.	1	1
36. Hyperplasia of Prostate.	2	-
37. Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System.	1	3
38. Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System.	1	2
39. Congenital Abnormalities.	2	3
40. Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	2	1
41. Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality.	2	3
42. Motor Vehicle Accidents.	6	1
43. All Other Accidents.	10	5
44. Suicide & Self Inflicted Injuries.	2	-
45. All Other External Causes.	1	-

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES.Preventive Measures.Diphtheria

605 primary immunisations were completed and 922 reinforcing injections were given.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

551 primary immunisations were completed and 1124 reinforcing doses were given orally.

Measles.

223 injections were given.

Tuberculosis.

The miniature Mass Radiography Unit visited the Borough every Monday from 2-30 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. to examine ante-natal patients, patients referred by general practitioners and other members of the public. B.C.G. inoculation was offered to the 13 year and older children and was accepted by 89.6%

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1969.

Diseases.	Total cases notified.	Total Deaths.
Dysentery	1	NIL
Scarlet Fever	3	NIL
Pneumonia	NIL	37
Measles	15	NIL
Poliomyelitis	NIL	NIL
Erysipelas	NIL	NIL
Food Poisoning	1	NIL
Diphtheria	NIL	NIL
Whooping Cough	NIL	NIL
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	NIL
Acute Meningitis	1	NIL

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 12 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 2 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified. One death was due to Tuberculosis.

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	New Cases.	Deaths.	New Cases.	Deaths.
1959	16	3	5	NIL
1960	21	6	3	NIL
1961	9	NIL	6	NIL
1962	17	3	1	NIL
1963	15	4	NIL	NIL
1964	9	5	NIL	NIL
1965	8	NIL	1	NIL
1966	7	NIL	1	NIL
1967	12	NIL	2	NIL
1968	6	3	8	1
1969	12	1	2	NIL

SPECIAL SERVICES.MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

These services are the direct responsibility of the Worcestershire County Council and are discussed in the County Medical Officer's Report.

LABORATORY SERVICE.

The standing arrangements with the County Analyst have remained in force. The Public Health Laboratory, Worcester, is available for examination of medical specimens.

The Medical Practitioners of the Borough also use the Laboratory at the General Hospital.

CARE OF OLD PEOPLE.

The housing of old people is discussed on page 8. As more people are progressing to old age, so more accommodation will be required, and since it is often better to live in your own home than to go into an old persons home, more and more supportive services will be required. These include home helps, district nurses, bath attendants, laundry facilities, house service people (for doing odd jobs), short stay convalescent homes etc.,

During the year all the voluntary and statutory organisations listed in the 1968 Report have given excellent service to the old people.

There has also been formed the Kidderminster Association for the Welfare of Old People, whose function is to be a forum for those organisations helping old people. It is hoped that the various organisations will meet each other, discuss the problems of old peoples' care, ask for and obtain help from this association. The provision of an Old Peoples Day Centre has received much attention, and should be available in the near future.

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION.

Disinfestation and disinfection were undertaken by the Health Department on account of the following:-

Ants	2
Fleas	15
Bugs	35
Cockroaches	3
Black Beetles	6

See also page 27

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The agreement made between the Borough and the Mid-Worcestershire Hospital Management Committee, whereby for an annual payment the Borough use the Kidderminster General Hospital's Mortuary, continued to work satisfactorily.

HEALTH INFORMATION.

Throughout the year members of the Health Department have been giving knowledge of how to enjoy healthier lives. People want to be well but so often they will not take the necessary measures to secure good health.

What is the use of telling a "hooked" drug addict, be it tobacco, alcohol or heroin that he would be better to break his slavery to the habit?

Better conditions are being provided by the community, but the rules of healthy living must be learned by children, and on these we should concentrate our health teaching efforts.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Clinic	Situation and time of Session.	Provided by
Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	Holy Innocents' Hall, Foley Park - Monday 2-0 to 4-0 p.m. Methodist Church Hall, Broadwaters. Mondays 2-0 to 4-0 p.m. Birchen Coppice Church Hall - 2nd and 4th Tuesday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Franché Church Hall, Franché - Tuesday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Coventry Street Clinic Thursday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Comberton Church Hall - Tuesday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Habberley Church Hall - Wednesdays 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m.	County Council
Tuberculosis	Kidderminster General Hospital - Wednesday 10-30 a.m. and 3-0 p.m. Thursday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m.	Regional Hospital Board
Consultative Ante-Natal Clinic	Kidderminster General Hospital - Weekly, Wednesday 11-0 a.m.	Regional Hospital Board
Family Planning Clinic	Coventry Street Clinic. Wednesday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Tuesday 5-30 p.m. to 7-0 p.m.	Family Planning Association
Chiropody Service	Monday morning and afternoon every other Tuesday morning, every Tuesday afternoon. Wednesday morning and Thursday afternoon. Friday morning and afternoon.	County Council
Cytology Clinic	Coventry Street Clinic, By appointment.	County Council

REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

In accordance with Circular 1/70 of the Department of Health and Social Security I present with pleasure the Report on the work accomplished by the Public Health Inspectorate for the year ended 31st December 1969, coupled with a short report on the Public Cleansing Service administered by the Department dealing with the collection and disposal of household refuse, some trade refuse, and salvage.

The main details of the Report can be found on subsequent pages and are set out in tabular or other form for ease of reference. Thus readers will become acquainted with the various duties of the Department.

As year succeeds year a growing awareness of new problems becomes more real for which solutions will eventually have to be sought. The Civic Amenities Act has done much by way of dealing with abandoned motor vehicles. However, pollution of the air by road vehicles pollution of rivers by diverse ways, the many sources of increasing noise, and the dumping of litter in lanes and on pieces of unoccupied land still persists. The question of effective control of itinerant travellers who occupy vacant areas of land to their ultimate desecration and abomination is with us as much as ever. Efforts in dealing with these problems, although not spectacular, are very necessary and prove a challenge which no doubt will test the wit of near future policy makers in finding very real final solutions.

A Staff change was made during the year, due to the resignation of the Authorised Meat Inspector who operates at one large Abattoir in the Borough, the vacancy being subsequently filled.

I accord a generous word of appreciation to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for continued support, thanks to the Medical Officer of Health and Officers of other Departments for much help during the past year, such help being of inestimable value. I would again like to record my appreciation to senior members of the County Analyst's Department, also to Dr. R.J. Henderson and Staff of the Public Health Laboratory Service, Worcester, whose advice when sought on matters concerning food etc., is so readily given. To the Inspectorate and Clerical Staff I offer my thanks for loyalty and application to duties.

Yours obediently

J.B. HINTON.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

The Borough possesses a complement of 6 private slaughterhouses and no municipally owned Public Abattoir. The duty of meat inspection was pursued during the year with customary diligence. Further detailed particulars of the result of such work can be found on subsequent pages. An Authorised Meat Inspector is employed for duty at the largest slaughterhouse.

THE MEAT INSPECTION REGULATIONS, 1963.

The coming into force of the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963, has made the work more exacting in as much as they provide that meat must be inspected at Slaughterhouses in accordance with the standard procedure laid down in their 1st Schedule. Meat which is passed must be marked with a stamp bearing the name of the Local Authority and a Code No. or letter to identify the officer who made the inspection. At our largest Abattoir licences are in force for the slaughtering of animals for export to the Continent.

THE MEAT INSPECTION (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1966.

The above regulations which came into force on the 30th September, 1966, gave Local Authorities (After due consultation with slaughterhouse occupiers) the power to determine the days and hours during which slaughtering may take place at private slaughterhouses within their districts.

In accordance with these Regulations the hours of slaughter for premises within the Borough have been fixed.

No departure from the hours originally fixed was effected during the year.

MEAT AND EDIBLE OFFAL CONDEMNED.

DISEASE	TONS	CWTS	LBS
Cirrhosis, Distomatosis	11	11	5
Parasitic Cysts	3	1	104
Emaciation & Oedema	2	9	37
Angiomatosis	1	16	61
Pyogenic Abscesses	1	14	73
Necrosis	1	4	17
Moribund & Imperfect Bleeding	1	3	67
Tuberculosis	1	2	74
Pleurisy, Peritonitis & Pericarditis	1	2	37
Septicaemia	1	1	8
Pyæmia		17	64
Hydatid Cysts		17	16
Septic Arthritis		14	29
Toxaemia		6	110
Injury & Bruising		6	29
Arthritis		6	11
Septic Pericarditis		4	52
Putrefactive Odour		4	12
Actinobacillosis		3	42
Contamination		2	95
Cysticercus Bovis		2	94
Xanthosis		2	43
Gangrene		2	19
Uraemia		1	39
Immaturity		1	24
Swine Erysipelas		1	9
Jaundice & Hepatitis		1	8
Septic Metritis		1	0
Actinomycosis			90
Pneumonia			74
Metritis			72
Enteritis			63
Urticaria			45
Physiological Poorness			35
Septic Peritonitis			33
Umbilical Pyæmia			32
Hydronephrosis			32
Nephritis			31
Congestion			28
Osteomalacia			28
Emphysema			18
Fatty Change			14

Total weight condemned - 31 tons. 8 cwts. 94 lbs.

CARCASES, INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	5,679	1,107	231	23,782	13,332
Number inspected	5,679	1,107	231	23,782	13,332
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	8	3	21	59	76
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2,196	402	NIL	3,452	1,293
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	38.7	36.3	9.1	14.5	9.7
<u>TUBERCULOSIS:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	219
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1.64
<u>CYSTICERCUS BOVIS:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	14	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercus Bovis	0.25	-	-	-	-

OTHER FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED.

6463 Tins, Packets & Jars of Various Foodstuffs
(estimated weight 1 ton 8 cwt 96 lbs.)

18 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt Miscellaneous Frozen Foods.	1038 lbs Beef & Lamb Portions
800 lbs Bacon	390 lbs Peaches
230 lbs Turkeys	190 lbs Tinned Lambs Liver
188 lbs Onions	179 lbs Pork
157 lbs Tinned Pork	138 lbs Ox Tongue
120 lbs Yoghurt	110 lbs Grapes
102 lbs Sausages	81 lbs Dressed Chickens
72 lbs Lettuce	58 lbs Dairy Produce
56 lbs Ice Cream	41 lbs Tinned Ham
39 lbs Shelled Walnuts	36 lbs Corned Beef
22 lbs Jellied Veal	13 lbs Delicatessen Meat Products
12 lbs Luncheon Meat	24 Fl. oz. Fresh Cream

<u>Summary</u>	T.	C.	Lbs.
Total weight (Meat and Foods) condemned	35	13	0
Total weight (Meat) Condemned	31	8	94

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958.

One of the principal requirements of this Act is to ensure that persons engaged in the slaughtering of food animals hold a licence and these licences specify the kind of animals which may be slaughtered and the types of instruments to be used. The licences are for 12 monthly periods and require renewal at the end of that time. Persons holding such licences must be over 18 years of age and competent to discharge their duties.

Number of Licences in force - 27

No Ritual Slaughter took place in the Borough during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.ICE-CREAM - Registration of premises.

Number of premises where Ice-Cream is manufactured, stored or sold.

Manufacturers (complete cold mix only) ...	...	...	1
Premises where wrapped Ice-Cream only is sold ...	...	...	155
Premises where wrapped Ice-Cream and bulk is sold			
(Does not include Cafes) ...	...	...	1

From the above table it will be readily appreciated that most of the Ice-Cream sold in this Borough is supplied by large manufacturers whose premises are outside our district. This is achieved mainly by either bulk deliveries to retail shops and stores or by retail vans.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.ROUTINE SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

Total number of samples taken for chemical analysis during the year 157.

<u>Nature of Samples.</u>	<u>Number Taken.</u>	<u>Nature of Samples.</u>	<u>Number Taken.</u>
Beverage Mix	1	Sausage Pork	12
Bicarbonate of Soda	1	" Beef	7
Butter	2	" Beef & Pork	1
Cheese Medium Fat	1	Soft Drinks	4
" Full Fat	1	Soup Canned	1
" Products	4	Spices	2
Cream Single	3	Sauce Mix	1
" Sterilised	2	Sausage Savouries	3
" Double	2	& Rolls	
Cream Confectionery	3	Table Jelly	4
" Chocolate flavour	1	Pickles & Sauces	1
" of Tartar	1	Preserves	3
Coffee & Chicory Essence	1	Vitamin Yeast Tablets	1
Curry Powder	2	Vegetables Dried	1
Chocolate Liqueurs	1		
Desert preparations	4		
Fish Canned	1		
" Cured	3		
" Products	3		
" Pastes	1		
Flour Confectionery	1		
Fruit Pie Filling	1		
Fruit Juice	1		
" Canned	2		
Glucose Tablets	1		
Gravy Preparations	1		
Ice-Cream	2		
Jam	1		
Lard	2		
Meat Products (Canned)	2		
" Paste	3		
" Pies	6		
" Croquettes	2		
" & vegetable Pasties	4		
Marmalade	1		
Margarine	2		
Marzipan	1		
Milk	41		
" Evaporated	2		
" Pudding (Canned)	2		

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.ACTION TAKEN REGARDING SAMPLES IRREGULAR.

Sample No.	Sample of	Deficiency or Condition	Result, Action, etc.,
908	Curry Powder	Lead content slightly in excess	Further sample genuine.
931	Table Jelly	Desicated (old stock)	Further sample genuine.
946	Cotswold Pastie	Incorrectly described	Manufacturers and retailers attention drawn to incorrect description.
922	Pork sausages	Undeclared preservation	Retailers attention drawn to requirements.
1000	Milk	Added water	Repeat samples genuine.
1004	Marmalade	Slight sugar deficiency	Retailer and makers attention drawn to deficiency.

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLES.Examination of Milk.

The following is a table showing the number of samples taken and results:-

Sample	No.	Methylene Blue Test			Phosphatase Test		Turbidity Test
		Passed	Failed	Void	Passed	Failed	Passed
Pasteurised	98	75	3	20	87	11	-
Sterilised	5	-	-	-	-	-	5

11 Phosphatase failures from a local processing plant was rather disturbing. Consequently in close liason with the Dairy management and plant engineers a searching examination was carried out with success.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 Contd.

ROUTINE SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

The sampling of certain types of foods for bacteriological examination continues to be used to assess the cleanliness of their preparation etc. Below is a synopsis of the samples taken:

(a) Ice-Cream

Samples Submitted	Grades			
	1	2	3	4
2	2	-	-	-

(b) Other Foods

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Number of Samples Taken.</u>
Faggots	4
Sausages	14
Pork Pie	2

WATER SAMPLES

Two samples of mains water were taken during the year and submitted for Bacteriological Examination. These are in addition to the routine samples taken by the Water Board.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1963.

At the end of the year the following licences were in force:-

Pasteurised Milk	Processing Plants	1
	Dealers (prepacked milk)	33
Sterilised Milk	Processing Plants	1
	Dealers (prepacked milk)	56
Ultra-Heat Treated Milk	Dealers (prepacked milk)	13

MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1959.

Number of Distributors registered	6
Number of Dairy Premises registered	2

FOOD COMPLAINTS

As mentioned in previous reports, the incidence of Food Complaints has now become a permanent feature in the Department's work, and during the year a total of 43 were received and investigated. Commodities affected included bread, pies, tinned goods, confectionery and milk bottles, (dirty or containing contraries). Complaints included abnormal taste, mould, decomposition, infestation, contraries and discoloration. After enquiries, often exhaustive, warning letters were sent in 4 cases. As a direct result of these complaints prosecutions were instituted in 9 cases.

Correct rotation of certain foods is essential to prevent the sale of goods which are past their shelf life, or otherwise out of condition. Various systems of codings are in use by producers and shop-keepers, the meanings of which are often obscure except to the initiators. Again, as in previous reports, I cannot advocate too strongly the importance of vigilance by all concerned in their sale when handling these perishable commodities, to prevent, so far as is humanly possible, conflict with the food laws.

SUMMARY OF FOOD PREMISES.

The figures of various categories of food business given below are arranged in accordance with the Department of Health and Social Security Circular 1/70.

<u>TRADE</u>	<u>Total number of premises</u>
Bakehouses	5
Butchers	30
Cafes, Restaurants	22
Confectioners	11
Fish & Chip Shops	15
Greengrocers	18
Grocers, General Stores	101
Industrial Canteens	19
Meat Product Manufacturers and Processors	20
Multiple Stores	10
Sugar Confectioners	13
Wholesale Warehouses	6

HOUSING.

Although the work of Slum Clearance is still regarded as of major importance, it would appear from the following statistical synopsis that, apart from two Public Enquiries, activity was minimal. However, such is not the case as during the year inspections covering a very large area were actively pursued over several months. At the close of the year the necessary plans and schedules were in course of preparation for presentation to the appropriate Committee, which was in the nature of a "marathon" effort.

HOUSING ACT 1969.

This Act, which came into operation on 25th August 1969, consolidates and amends legislation regarding Improvement Grants and introduces new procedure for Improvement areas etc. The modernisation and repair of certain types of houses which are worth while in this respect, together with environmental improvement is the aim if such properties are to be saved from what could possibly be condemnation and clearance due to decay and lack of essential basic amenities.

Set out below is a synopsis of the work, viz:

(a) Action under Housing Act during year.

No. of houses represented for Demolition Orders.	-
" " Demolition Orders made.	-
" " Houses represented for Closing Orders.	1
" " Closing Orders made (whole houses)	1
" " " " " (part of a building).	-
Undertakings not to use house accepted.	1
" to repair house accepted.	-
Number of houses represented, Clearance Areas.	-
Number of houses actually demolished during year	203
" of houses closed.	1
" of persons displaced.	235

Public Enquiries were held during the year on the Bromsgrove Street (No.2) and Jerusalem Walk areas which were subsequently confirmed.

(b) Public Health Act.

Houses in which defects were remedied.	
After informal action by Local Authority	70
After formal action by Local Authority	12

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED - PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Preliminary Notices served	49
Intimation letters sent	9
Statutory Notices served	11

Set out overleaf is a summary of defects remedied.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENT ACT, 1957.

One application was received during the year for a Certificate of Disrepair.

After service of form J a landlords' undertaking was given and the necessary work carried out.

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED (HOUSES) YEAR 1969.DWELLING HOUSES.

Roofs repaired	17
Chimney stacks repointed/repared	1
Defective spouting repaired, refixed or new provided	13
House brickwork repointed/repared	1
Plasterwork repaired, or renewed	6
Windows repaired, sashcords provided	4
Floors repaired	6
Stairs or steps repaired	1
Woodwork of doors repaired or new ones provided	1
Provision of ventilation	1
Rendering of external walls	2
Provision of water service tank	1
Provision of back boiler	1
Repair of paving	1

WATER-CLOSETS.

Derelict structures demolished	3
Roofs repaired	1
New pedestal pans provided	6
Flushing cistern repaired or new provided	11
Leaking water-closet joints repaired	1
Seats provided	3
Provision of adequate water supply to cistern	4
Repair of Spouting	2

DRAINAGE.

Obstructed drains cleared	56
Drains relaid or repaired	6

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS, INTERVIEWS ANDOTHER VISITS.

Qualification Certificates	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Civic Amenities Act (Abandoned Vehicles)	...	...	...	...	...	...	449
House Inspections (Public Health and Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	991
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Drain Testing	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Interview with Owner or Builder	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Enquiry Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Improvement Grant Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Official Searches re Property	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Common Lodging House Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Offensive Trades Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	...	92
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	149
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Private Slaughterhouses (Meat Inspection)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,615
Private Slaughterhouses (Construction)	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Retail Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	161
Ice-Cream Retailers	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Tinned Food and other articles of food examination	...	...	...	...	...	...	149
Food and Drugs Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	...	125
Interview in Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	275
Other complaints and miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	462
Atmospheric Pollution (Clean Air Act)	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Mobile Vans (Food)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	919
Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Tents, Vans & Sheds (Human occupation)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Markets & Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Noise	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Rent Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS.

Summary proceedings were instituted in the following cases during the year.

Nature of Offence	Enactment Contravened	Result
Selling a packet of sausages unfit for human consumption.	Food & Drugs Act, 1955 Section 8 (i)	Fined £10
Selling a meat pie unfit for human consumption.	Food & Drugs Act, 1955 Section 8 (i)	Fined £10
Selling a packet of sausages unfit for human consumption.	Food & Drugs Act, 1955 Section 8 (i)	Fined £20 plus £5. 5. 0 costs.
Failure to protect food from risk of contamination. (3 charges)	Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, Reg 8.	Fined £30 plus £10. 10. 0 costs.

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES, CLOTHING ETC.

The Department is called upon for help in the eradication of vermin with many requests of a varied nature, more recently wasps nests seem to be figuring. Help is given whenever possible. Disinfestation against the more common house pests, viz: bed bugs, fleas and mice being the main feature. It is only on rare occasions that rats invade houses, and then it is usually through a drain defect which can be found and repaired. The activities of rats seem to be confined to gardens, sheds, poultry houses and storage places where for some reason they are attracted. In such environment they usually find what they need - shelter, warmth and food. This highlights the importance of rat-proofing buildings, and storing such things as animal and poultry foods in suitable containers. This applies equally to building sites, especially if operatives leave food scraps around. The persistent and unrelenting attack on the rat population in sewers must ultimately prove a most worthwhile effort.

The spraying of infested premises, furniture and other fittings with an insecticide which contains both 'knock-down' and 'residual' properties is the method usually applied, sometimes supplemented with gaseous fumigation. Where possible such fittings as picture rails, skirting boards, architraves and wallpapers are removed so as to facilitate the work.

Number of disinfestations carried out by the Local Authority - 71.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

We have now only one trade being carried on at present which comes within this term - that of a Gut Scraper.

MORTUARY

During the year 126 bodies were received into the Mortuary at the Kidderminster General Hospital.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions.	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	10	6	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	199	5	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	209	11	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961 Contd2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(if defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they are reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	Found	Number of cases in which defects were found		Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted.
		Remedied	Referred	
			To H.M. Inspector.		By H.M. Inspector.
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature. (S.3)	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	1	1	-	1

RODENT CONTROL. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Two rodent operatives are employed, who in addition to their duties as such also carry out the work of disinfection and disinfestation. The work entailed covers private houses, business premises, refuse disposal sites and main sewers. There are a few cases of business premises where private firms are engaged in rodent control and disinfestations.

A summary of the work is set out below:-

	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
No. of properties in district	19,472	6
No. of properties inspected as a result of notification	589	1
Number infested by		
(a) Rats	526	1
(b) Mice	179	-
No. of properties inspected for reasons other than notification	713	-
Number infested by		
(a) Rats	600	-
(b) Mice	463	-

SEWER TREATMENTS.

Number of manholes posion baited. 19

Number of manholes showing bait taken. 6

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The Act is primarily concerned with the health, safety and welfare of workers in office, shop and railway premises. It came into operation on the 1st August, 1964.

Below is a synopsis of the work done under the Act during 1969.

The number of registered premises covered by the Act is 508

The number of persons employed in these premises totalled 3,619 comprising 1,303 males and 2,316 females.

A total of 840 visits of all types were made to premises and of these 241 were general inspections.

13 accidents were reported during the year under Section 48 of the Act, these were investigated but in no case was any further action necessary.

During the 241 general inspections, a total of 23 contraventions was found and 13 informal letters were sent to occupiers or owners drawing their attention to these matters and asking that steps be taken to remedy them.

The contraventions were as follows:-

Cleanliness	Section 4	1
Overcrowding	" 5	NIL
Temperature	" 6	2
Ventilation	" 7	1
Lighting	" 8	2
Sanitary Conveniences	" 9	3
Washing Facilities	" 10	3
Drinking Water	" 11	-
Clothing Accommodation	" 12	-
Floors and Passages	" 16	3
Dangerous Machinery	" 17	1
First Aid	" 24	4
Employment of Persons Order	" 49	2
Information for Employees Regulations		1

PET ANIMALS ACT.

This Act seeks to secure that the offering for sale of animals, birds, and fish shall be on suitable premises and that they shall be fed, watered and protected from the risk of fire.

No. of Licences issued for such premises 7

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT.

There is one registration of an establishment under this Act.

CARAVANS.

There are no licensed caravan sites in the Borough. We are, however, still faced with the problem of nomadic dwellers invading vacant pieces of land. Your Council's Enforcement Officer is evicting these people from Council owned land with monotonous regularity.

The fouling and desecration of land perpetrated by such people is something which must be seen to be believed, and their prompt "move on" is an absolute necessity.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.Chimney Heights

In one instance only the Department was asked to advise on the height for new industrial chimneys. This was given in accordance with the memoranda on chimney heights issued as a guide under the Clean Air Act, 1956.

New Furnaces

Two notifications of the installation of new industrial furnaces were received.

Atmospheric Pollution Recording Apparatus.

An 8 port volumetric and smoke filter apparatus installed in the Church Street Offices is working satisfactorily, the results from which are passed on to Warren Springs Laboratory.

RAINFALL

Month	Inches		Rainfall for the past ten years	
	1968	1969	Year	Inches
January	2.05	2.62		
February	1.36	2.20		
March	.94	2.33	1960	37.08
April	2.52	1.56	1961	22.73
May	2.59	6.10	1962	22.79
June	3.46	1.60	1963	20.90
July	3.64	2.50	1964	19.49
August	1.73	3.20	1965	27.89
September	3.20	.90	1966	24.93
October	2.16	.21	1967	26.81
November	1.36	3.43	1968	27.66
December	2.65	2.32	1969	28.97
TOTAL:	27.66	28.97	Average:	25.92

PUBLIC CLEANSING, REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The Refuse Incineration Plant continues to work well; however, during the year it became apparent that the 'Volume explosion' in the refuse intake made it necessary for your Committee to consider the installation of the two extra cells for which certain allowances were made initially when the plant was planned. It was further agreed that the two cells be provided. These additions, when completed, should add greatly to the efficiency of the plant and in certain ways improve working conditions. During the year maintenance repairs were carried out which regrettably proved more extensive than was first envisaged, and the real and true extent of the repairs was only fully revealed during the flue dismantling operations. During the repair period which continued for some weeks, tipping was resorted to. Again, attendant difficulties had to be overcome.

The entire work of salvage recovery is done at the Hoobrook Depot where the Plant is housed and where all refuse and salvage operations are now concentrated.

In the main a weekly collection of refuse and salvage has been maintained throughout the year. We were however faced with an acute labour shortage during the holiday period about the middle of the year - this applied to both collection and plant workers. Although this was a very critical period we managed to 'soldier on' and struggle through. A new system of overtime working during Bank Holiday 'breaks' has resulted in an almost complete absence of the usual post holiday spate of complaints.

VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT.

The following is a list of vehicles and equipment used by the Department during the year under review (apart from the separation and incineration plant itself).

- 2 S.D. Fore and Aft container bulk loaders.
- 6 S.D. Fore and Aft Refuse Freighters.
- 1 Morris Van for salvage.
- 1 Morris Van.
- 1 Massey Ferguson Mechanical Shovel.
- 1 Metal Baling Press (ex Destructor Plant).
- 1 Paper Baling Press.
- 1 Elevator for loading baled paper.
- 1 Commer metal bodied lorry for clinker from Plant and general use.
- 1 Bedford metal bodied lorry for clinker from Plant.

During the year we have disposed of as much salvageable material as is possible, such as baled paper, baled tins, light scrap iron and broken glass. Apart from the revenue accruing from the sale of this material we are indeed fortunate in being able to be completely rid of it. This I attribute in part to the geographical disposition of the Town, being near to works which can re-use such materials and is one of the advantageous features in our present method of refuse and salvage disposal.

VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT contd.....

+ The cost of collection and disposal of refuse and salvage for the year 1969 was ...							£95,916
+ The income was ...							£7,618
+ The nett cost being ...							£88,298
+ Financial year ended 31st March 1970. These figures do not include administration costs.							

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF DOMESTIC AND TRADE REFUSE.

Loads of refuse taken to incinerator	6,855
Loads of refuse taken to Broadwaters Tip	798
Total number of loads of refuse removed	7,653
Loads of salvage removed	1,219
Loads of destructor waste taken to tip	1,748

RECORD OF SALVAGE FOR THE YEAR 1969/1970

The weights of the salvaged materials have been segregated and are set out below:-

Materials	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.
Baled Waste Paper	380	1	2	3825.	11.	4.
Baled Destructor Scrap	347	7	2	1509.	14.	0.
Cullet (Broken Glass)	143	11	-	240.	3.	0.
Light Scrap Iron	61	5	1	91.	18.	11.
TOTAL:	932	5	1	5667.	7.	3.

OTHER INCOME

Incineration charges ...	...	...	...	593.	10.	0.
(1st April 1969 to 31st March 1970)	...	...	...
Removal of Trade Refuse Charges	...	...	...	1750.	0.	0.
(1st April 1969 to 31st March 1970)	...	...	...

ABANDONED VEHICLES

During the year 1969 part 111 of the Civic Amenities Act 1967 gave powers to and eventually placed a duty upon Local Authorities to deal with abandoned motor vehicles. Arrangements were made with a local car breaker and although the procedure is complicated it has been carried out smoothly. Where the owner of an abandoned vehicle can be traced he becomes liable to pay a fee of £6 where removal and disposal of the vehicle is carried out by the Council.

No. of vehicles removed during year:

(a) by owners	77.
(b) by Council	29.

